



E.A. 50/5

The New Zealand Beekeepers' Journal.

APRIL 23rd, 1915.

ISSUED MONTHLY
FOR
THE NATIONAL BEE-KEEPERS'
ASSOCIATION OF N.Z.



PER ANNUM: **3/6** IN ADVANCE.



National Beekeepers' Association of New Zealand.

The object of the Association is the Improvement of the Beekeeping Industry and furthering the interests and the prosperity of the Beekeepers throughout the Dominion.

Membership is extended to any Beekeeper who is in accord with the aims and objects of the Association, on payment of a small fee.

DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS AFFILIATED.

- Waikato Beekeepers' Association. Hon. Sec., W. Hooper Teed, Waihou, Thames Valley.
- Taranaki Beekeepers' Association. Hon. Sec., H. W. Warcup, Hawera.
- Canterbury Beekeepers' Association. Hon. Sec., Miss Mackay, Middle Lincoln Road, Spreydon, Christchurch.
- Pahiatua Beekeepers' Association. Hon. Sec., G. Bentley, Pahiatua.
- Southland Beekeepers' Association. Hon. Sec., L. Gardiner, 119 Elles Road, Invercargill.
- South Canterbury Beekeepers' Association. Hon. Sec., R. Lang, Geraldine.
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OFFICE-BEARERS OF THE NATIONAL BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND.

President: Mr. Jas. Allan, "Oakleigh," Wyndham.

Vice-President: Mr. J. S. Cotterell, Manawaru, Te Aroha.

Executive: Messrs. H. W. Gilling, Matapu, Taranaki; S. Hutchinson, Hamilton East; C. A. Jacobsen, Little River; A. Ireland, 24 Andover Street, Merivale, Christchurch.

General Secretary-Treasurer: Mr. R. W. Brickell, P.O. Box 572, Dunedin.

A large membership will give the Executive increased funds with which to develop the local and foreign markets and push the export trade. Increased demand will raise the value of your honey crop.

April 23, 1915.]

E. A. Sayf

The New Zealand Beekeepers' Journal

The Official Organ of the
National Beekeepers' Association of N.Z.

No. 10

DUNEDIN.

3/6 PER ANNUM.

SOME OBSERVATIONS ON ORGANISATION.

Never before in the history of our industry has there been such a decided movement as there is at the present time towards organisation. Every bee paper we pick up contains reports of meetings of Associations and Conventions, all of them taken up enthusiastically by the beekeepers of the various States in America. All or nearly all of the organisations are affiliated with the head body, the National Beekeepers' Association of the United States. The amount of subscriptions received by the various Associations, from the beekeepers must be very considerable.

What is the reason for this widespread movement? Is it just for the fun of travelling long distances to attend Conferences and the pleasure of paying away one's hard-earned gold? Certainly not. The reason for the movement is that the Associations are doing for the beekeeper what he cannot do for himself. They are obtaining freight concessions, equitable laws, a strict administration of the Apiaries and Foul Brood Acts, and last, but not least, perhaps most important, they are undertaking advertising campaigns which are from all reports sending up the consumption of honey by leaps and bounds.

The lessons for us in New Zealand are that effective organisation can obtain freight concessions; can demand and obtain more effective administration of our Apiaries Act; and can undertake an advertising campaign which will send up the consumption of honey in New Zealand also by leaps and bounds.

The number of beekeepers in New Zealand is increasing year by year. The older men are increasing their apiaries, and consequently the production of honey is increasing very rapidly indeed.

One of the laws of Nature is that a bountiful harvest always follows lean years, such as we have had recently. In all probability the bountiful harvest will come next year, and our markets will be glutted unless we take some steps now to provide an outlet for the surplus.

We have in New Zealand an organisation called the National Beekeepers' Association, formed for the purpose of handling all the problems that perplex the beekeeper. What we have not got, however, is a large membership, without which the best organisation is powerless to accomplish its objects owing to lack of funds. We appeal, therefore, to every beekeeper, be he a large or a small one, to join the ranks of the National. The subscription rates are small, and will bring in a cash return out of all proportion to the money invested, for it is an investment and not a charity donation. We would suggest to every reader that it is his duty to himself to join without further delay.

HOPKINS TESTIMONIAL.

In our September issue we drew attention to a resolution of last Conference, in which it was decided to present to Mr. Isaac Hopkins a small memento in recognition of his services to the beekeeping industry of New Zealand.

When examining some old records the other day, we came across a notice issued by Mr. Hopkins in 1888 calling the beekeepers of New Zealand together for the purpose of re-organising the Beekeepers' Association, the forerunner of our present National, at that time in a very low state. The Association was re-organised, and did good work for some years.

As Mr. Hopkins has been associated with all the forward movements in the industry for a long period of years, it is fitting, now that he has retired, that we show him our appreciation of his work. Subscriptions limited to 1/- each are invited from all who care to send in their names. It is proposed to make the presentation during the time of the next Conference in Wellington. Subscriptions may be sent to Secretaries of the various Associations, or to the Secretary of the National.

THE FLORA OF NEW ZEALAND IN RELATION TO BEES.

[Extracts from a paper read before the Canterbury Beekeepers' Association, by W. E. Barker.]

The flora of New Zealand as a whole is of a most interesting character, and a great preponderance of our plants are identical with those of Terra del Fuego—i.e., our Birches (or Fagus)—which, by the bye, is often the beekeepers' bane on account of its being so liable to be attacked by aphides, which secrete a large amount of honey-dew, fuchsia (*excorticata*), pepper-wood, kowhai, broadleaf, veronica, &c. This to a geologist points to a land connection at some past date; then came on apparently a great change in our climate, with its concomitant fight for existence, and gradual change of foliage to meet the same.

The lancewood is a prolific honey producer, often in the autumn, and is strictly dioecious—i.e., the plants are either male or female. Now this is another interesting fact, that points to the great antiquity of New Zealand: no other country has so many plants either dioecious or partly so. Now, being stationary is a distinct handicap to plants in the race for life.

One would have expected to find New Zealand the home of the honey bee, and so it may have been in bye-gone ages, and probably the species *Apis dorsata*, the giant bee of India; but the rigorous climate may have chased them away to warmer latitudes, their only representatives being now the small solitary bees that make their burrows in the roadside. They, however, can have done little towards satisfying the natural desires of our dioecious plants, so it is interesting to note that birds stepped in to reap the rewards so richly held out to them.

In passing, I may mention we have another interesting case of this in the weeping willow, another dioecious plant, a native of China, so useful to us for early spring feed. When the Pilgrim Fathers touched at St. Helena, they brought over willow cuttings from Napoleon's Tomb. By accident they

brought only the female plant; so every spring we have the widowed willow weeping for its mate, and producing thus for us a flow of nectar. Thus in the course of ages a race of honey birds were developed to make use of this flow of nectar, and so we have our beautiful songsters, the tui and the mack-mack—

“Eaters of honey, honey sweet of song.”

It is the inconspicuousness of most of the native flora that makes us under-rate its value. The broadleaf, for instance, is a prolific honey producer, yet I expect few have seen its flower, *Pittosporum eugeneoides*, or Golden mapau, Tarata of the Maoris. It is at times a great honey producer. *Panax*, or oil-wood, is another; manuka many beekeepers tell me is much worked by bees, but it is strictly overlooked by mine. Till this season I have never seen a bee on a manuka bush; but after a heavy day's rain I was surprised to find them busily at work on them. Then there are the Hini-hini, the Parsonsias, the Passiflora, the supplejacks, Mühlenbeckias, the Wild Irishman, the Spaniard, all the Veronicas, likewise *Myrtus Bullata*, *Carpodetus serratus*, the Puta-puta-weta of the Māoris. (Note how the ancient Maoris too named trees by some leading characteristic—Puta-puta-weta, i.e., “the tree full of wood devils' holes”). In the King Country this same tree is called “Kai-weta”—i.e., “wood devils' food.” All add their quota in due season. The rata, too, though often so coy to open her lips to the vagrant lover, is not to be despised when she does blossom out.

“Flowers that with one scarlet gleam
Cover a hundred leagues, and seem
To set the hills on fire.”

Then we have the brambles (*Rubus*), better known as bush-lawyers, so painfully known to all of us, indeed, who otherwise love the bush; the bid-a-bid also, whose clever but unwelcome attachment to ladies' petticoats many have experienced; the yellow clematis, whose fragrant scent entices the passing bee to sup “a wee”; the native onion, too, or the field lily, would be a more true and poetic term; the black matapo; the currant wood; the senesios; the raivollias; the astelias; the Mimulus, and others of our alpine and swamp flora must not be overlooked, nor must we forget the flowers of our fields. The little yellow clover, or Trefoil trifolium, is very prolific; likewise the pelargonium and the wild geranium—each add to the sum total that makes our business pay. The cabbage tree, too (*Cordelyne*) gives us a great yield every second or third year, though often blamed for thick honey. Our stately pines and totaras, too, though being cypresses and giving us little honey, are valuable for their pollen production. Fortunate individuals like Mr. Clayton and I, no doubt too gather nectar from the beautiful mountain asters (*Celmesias*), whole fields of which bedeck our mountain-sides.

It seems a pity that the early pioneers in this country did not plant out more limes or bass woods, instead of plantations of *Pinus insignis*. But I fear if they had they would have made this country such a land of plenty that we beekeepers would not wish to prepare ourselves for the Better Land.

LECTURES ON THE HONEY BEE.

In last issue a letter was published advocating the use of cinematograph films for educating the people of the Dominion to a greater use of honey as a food. I have since learned that something has already been done in this direction. Last winter a number of public lectures were given in Wellington and its suburbs by a prominent Hawke's Bay apiarist, Mr. O. R. Bostock, of Fernhill, who has won no less than eighty prizes for his displays of honey and beeswax at Agricultural Shows.

Mr. Bostock has a very fine collection of lantern slides, which he has been preparing for some years past, largely from his own photographs. There are about 200 of them, and they cover every phase of the subject.

He calls his lecture "The Wonders of the Honey Bee," and it is intended to interest and entertain the general public, quite apart from those who have bees of their own. If audiences can be drawn together, much good could be done in this way, for while the cinema educates with the eye, it is much better to educate by both the eye and the ear. While the limelight views are being shown, the lecturer explains them.

In reporting a lecture at the Town Hall, Wellington, the "Dominion" stated:—"During the course of his lecture Mr. Bostock referred to the socialistic habits of the insect, and stated that there was only one place in the world where socialism was absolutely and completely carried out—that place was the interior of a bee-hive. The bee had solved thousands of years ago problems which are perplexing our legislators to-day. But in studying the social economy of the bee-hive, he found many features which filled him with doubt as to their application to the human race. For instance, he remarked, the very hour that a worker ceased to be a producer it must also cease to be a consumer. The wings of a field bee wear out very rapidly in a busy season, seldom lasting more than six weeks, and as soon as she found she could be of no further use to the community, she either crawled away and died, or else was put to death by the state executioners. There was no sentiment about the bee—no feeling for one another. They lived for the general good of the community as a whole, but one individual bee had no more sympathy for another than a traction engine would have for a man it had run over. They had not the slightest compunction about killing off those past work, and even the queen—their own mother—was no exception to the rule. In the heyday of her producing powers, she was surrounded by a whole retinue of ladies-in-waiting, but when her vigour began to fail she had the mortification of seeing her successor nurtured to take her place, knowing full well that it portended her own death."

It would be worth while for Secretaries of District Associations to write Mr. Bostock, with a view to having him deliver a series of lectures in their districts.

HONEY CROP PROSPECTS.

The Director of the Orchards, Gardens, and Apiaries Division has received from the Apiary Instructors the following reports concerning honey crop prospects:—

Auckland.—There is nothing further to report since last month.—G. V. Westbrooke. 6/4/15.

Wellington.—I have to report that most crops in my district have been extracted, but unfortunately the average of past years has not been maintained. There is, however, an exception in one district—Palmerston North—where a record crop has been gathered. It is gratifying to know that the beekeepers have moved in the right direction—namely, to co-operate, and there is every indication that the Company so formed will receive the support it merits. Owing to the smallness of the honey crop generally and the operations of the Company, with shareholders throughout the Dominion, there is a reasonable prospect of a substantial advance on former prices.—F. A. Jacobsen. 27/3/15.

Christchurch.—Active work in the apiary is gradually drawing to a close, and attention to wintering has commenced; some are finished, others are a little behind, and have the final extracting to do. It is anticipated grading for export will commence at Lyttelton shortly; but I fear there will not be so much honey available owing to the poor season. Recent reports state there is little doing—sales slow, and prices slightly less at Home. The local trade prices are slightly better this year. It is advisable to examine all stocks to see they have ample stores for winter and spring; during March quite a number of stocks have come under my notice dying of starvation—a most unusual thing for this time of the year.—L. Bowman. 1/14/15.

Dunedin.—With the exception of a few isolated districts reports generally indicate a poor season. This is the worst season in the memory of the veteran beekeepers in Southland. Extracting is finished, and beekeepers are closing down for the winter.—E. A. Earp. 31/3/15.

IMPORTS INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The value of honey imported into the United Kingdom during the year ending December, 1914, was £37,662, equal to about 1,076 tons. This figure shows a considerable falling off, as during the year ending December, 1913, the value was £50,763, equal to about 1,450 tons.

Commenting on these figures, the "British Bee Journal" says:—"We trust that the foreign honey has been ousted by the home-produced article, and the money has found its way into the pockets of the British beekeeper, and will continue to do so."

[Be it noticed that all the imports of honey into Great Britain are classed as "foreign." It is probably news to hear that we are foreigners. An effort will be made at the forthcoming Conference to induce the Department of Agriculture to take such steps as are necessary to remove the stigma from our produce.—Ed.]

CONFERENCE NOTICES.

The annual general meeting of the members of the National Beekeepers' Association will be held in Wellington on June 2nd, commencing at 10 a.m., for the purpose of receiving the report and balance sheet for the year ending May, 1915; receiving the report and balance sheet of the New Zealand Beekeepers' Journal; the election of office-bearers; the appointment of auditors for the ensuing year, and general.

N.B.—Members should give notice of their intention to bring anything forward at this meeting, which will be strictly a business one.

The Annual Conference of beekeepers of the Dominion will be held in Wellington on Wednesday, June 2nd, commencing at 2 p.m. The objects of the Conference are the consideration of matters of general interest to the beekeeping industry, in particular—

Railway freights and charges.

The administration of the Apiaries Act.

The advisability of the appointment of local inspectors.

Grading as it affects our exports, and the establishment of standard qualities.

Pure Foods Act as it affects the honey industry.

Co-operative schemes.

All bee-men are invited to attend the Conference.

The Executive will be pleased to receive short papers dealing with any of the above subjects, or any other matter of general interest. The title of the papers or the subject matter to be brought forward should reach the Secretary not later than WEDNESDAY, May 19th.

ATTEMPTED LEGISLATION.

In the House of Representatives of Idaho a bill was introduced against bees as follows:—

“No person, firm, association or corporation shall locate or maintain any hive or colony of bees within 100 yards of the property of any person, firm, association or corporation without first obtaining written consent of such property owner.

“Any person or firm, corporation or association violating the provisions of this Act shall be deemed guilty of misdemeanour.”

The Supreme Court of Arkansas decided that:—“Neither the keeping, owning or rearing of bees is in itself a nuisance. Bees may become a nuisance in a city, but whether they are so or not is a question to be judicially determined in each case.”

Honey Puffs.—One cupful of cream, 3 cupfuls of sugar, $\frac{1}{4}$ cupful of honey, white of one egg, 1 cupful of chopped nut meats. When the cream and sugar have been boiled without stirring until the threading stage is reached, add the honey. When the syrup will make a soft ball on being dropped into cold water, take it from the fire and beat into it the well-whipped white of an egg. Add a cupful of chopped nuts. When firm and creamy shape into balls.—“Country Gentleman.”

Applications are invited from **BEEKEEPERS ONLY**
for **SHARES** in this important enterprise.

NEW ZEALAND CO-OPERATIVE HONEY PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION, LIMITED.

CAPITAL - - £3,000

This Association is a **Co-operative Organisation**, established for the purpose of marketing the honey product of the Dominion solely in the interests of producers.

It has taken over from the National Beekeepers' Association an offer received by it from the Bristol and Dominions Producers' Association, Ltd., and has made a firm contract with the latter Association for the delivery of **not less than One Hundred Tons nor more than Five Hundred Tons per annum** of High-grade Honey, for a term of three years, on a fixed guarantee of a return of **4d. per lb.** The price is nett for Honey delivered f.o.b. at main ports, less packing expenses and 5 per cent. commission. The Producers' Association, while guaranteeing a return of **4d. per lb.**, also undertake to pay as much larger a sum as possible, the impression being that up to **5d. per lb.** will be forthcoming.

The experience of honey producers in the past throughout New Zealand, as far as export to Great Britain is concerned, is that the results have not been particularly satisfactory. The honey has been dumped on to the Home market, and banded in the rough-and-ready style generally accorded to overseas consignments. Under the contract above referred to, the Bristol Association receive the honey in bulk at their warehouse in Bristol, where provision will be made for its bottling and packing in such a way as will meet the requirements of the retail market in Great Britain. It will be sold bearing a uniform and attractive label, and with a continuous supply of a standard quality, it will doubtless command top prices. In this way the honey producers of New Zealand will receive the bulk of the profit instead of the middleman, as heretofore.

The New Zealand Co-operative Honey Producers' Association, Ltd., have now before them the task of raising this large quantity of honey, and invite the co-operation of the beekeepers throughout the Dominion in taking full advantage of the splendid terms which are now before them.

In order to deal with the proposition in a business-like way, the honey will only be received from members of the Association, every one of whom will be required to undertake the supply of a certain minimum quantity of honey per annum for three years. Shares will be allotted in accordance with the average quantity of honey to be supplied by each producer in the proportion of **one Share for every 4 hundredweight of Honey delivered.** The value of the Shares is £2 each. No deposit or other payment is required, as the deduction of **one-eighth of a penny per lb.** on the returns received from each shareholder's honey will be applied to the payment of the shares until such time as the shares are fully paid up, when no further deduction will be made, and honey may then be shipped by the producer in any quantity free of share deduction.

As it is anticipated that the shares will be fully applied for, it has been decided to give preference to applications from members of the National Beekeepers' Association. Those who are not yet members of this Organisation should become so without delay, and thus secure preference in their application for shares in the above Company.

An application form for shares will be posted on receipt of request by any of the following:—

Mr. H. W. GILLING, Chairman of Directors N.Z. Co-op. Honey Producers' Association, Ltd., Matapu, Taranaki.

Mr. F. C. BAINES, Secretary N.Z. Co-op. Honey Producers' Association, Ltd., Normanby, Taranaki.

Mr. R. W. BRICKELL, Secretary National Beekeepers' Association of N.Z., P.O. Box 572, Dunedin.

And the Secretaries of all the District Associations.

NEW ZEALAND CO-OPERATIVE HONEY PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION, LTD.

A Special General Meeting of the shareholders of the New Zealand Co-operative Honey Producers' Association will be held in Wellington on THURSDAY, June 3rd, at 10 a.m. Special business to be brought before the meeting will be announced by circular. It is important that all shareholders make an effort to be present, as the directors propose to place before the meeting a report showing what has been accomplished by the Company in the short period of its operations, and the very substantial advantages which will accrue from co-operation in the future. Opportunity will be given for a general discussion on the principle of co-operation and the policy of the Company.

The Association has made arrangements with their agents to accept all honey passed by the grader, even if it does not grade 88 points. As the agents will only advance 4d. per lb. with recourse, the Association will advance the supplier 3½d. per lb. This will avoid the chance of the supplier having to refund part of payment received in the event of the honey not realising the equivalent to 4d. per lb. Should the honey realise full value, the difference would be paid on receipt of the Account Sales from England.

Owing to the disorganised state of the shipping this year, suppliers are requested to forward their honey to the grading depot immediately it is ready.

FRED. C. BAINES,

Hawera, 13th April, 1915.

Secretary.

TIMARU SHAREHOLDERS' NOTICE.

The advice note for all honey consigned to the Government Grading Stores, Timaru, should be sent and addressed to the Timaru Cold Stores and Ice Co., and not to the New Zealand Express Co., as previously advised.

F. C. BAINES, Secretary.

HONEY ON CONSIGNMENT IN LONDON.

The Secretary of the National Beekeepers' Association reports having received a number of enquiries from beekeepers asking whether it is possible to arrange to re-ship to Bristol honey which they sent to London on open consignment last year, some of which is lying there unsold, and unsaleable except at a ridiculously low price. In reply to the question sent to him, Mr. F. C. Baines, Secretary of the New Zealand Co-operative Honey Producers' Association, says:—

“The Bristol and Dominions Producers' Association have signified their willingness to take over stocks of honey held in London and elsewhere on receipt of instructions from us. Therefore, if any beekeepers have honey and would like it taken over, they can send me their authority. The honey would be handled on the same terms as that now being shipped—that is, 4d. per lb., without recourse, on all first-class honey, subject, of course, to the usual share applications.”

RISKS OF OVERHAULING HIVES IN WINTER.

"Inquirer" writes:—"I have been advised by an old beekeeper to avoid manipulating the brood chamber of my hives or disturbing the bees to any great extent during winter and spring lest my doing so may cause them to ball the queen, and thus kill or injure her. Please inform me through the next issue of the Journal is this the case, and if so why do they do it? I want to overhaul my apiary on the first fine day, and am anxious to learn how far I can go."

[Unless it is absolutely necessary, you had better not disturb your bees at all during winter, and great care must be taken when doing the necessary work. When a colony is manipulated extensively or carelessly, either, in autumn or spring, there is a risk that the bees will form a compact mass around the queen in a ball about the size of a walnut, and thus smother her if not quickly released from their embrace. Beekeepers call this act of the bees balling the queen. A puff of smoke or carbolic vapour will cause the bees to release their prisoner from, what is generally believed, their act of intended affection, or protection against what they consider the assault of the operator. The queen must then be placed in a cage for a day, or until the bees have quietened down, which they usually do in a few hours. Unless released immediately after this rough usage has commenced, a balled queen, if not actually killed, is seldom of very much use after the ordeal. A great many queens are lost by balling, and this might account for the numbers of hives that are found queenless in spring, though the beekeeper might have no idea that such was the case.]

EQUALIZING COLONIES.

Some of our practical beekeepers disagree upon the advisability of helping middling or weak colonies with brood from strong and populous hives in spring.

We believe there are good arguments on both sides. Is it not a mistake to give help to a colony whose queen is of little or no value, and which will probably not be worth anything until the queen is exchanged?

On the other hand, if we have a prolific queen in a weak colony which is struggling to make some headway, is it not possible to make this colony valuable by giving it a comb of hatching young bees in time for the active season of laying?

Much depends upon whether we have time to give the weak colonies a little attention. We must also beware of giving young brood too early or in very cool weather to a weak colony, as it may not be able to take care of it.

Some people prefer to unite weak colonies to others in the spring. It is well if they have no queen, or if the queen is worthless. But uniting decreases the number of colonies, and sometimes an apparently weak colony will show good results if it is only given help at the proper time.

BASSWOOD PLANTING.

(By Prof. G. B. Macdonald.)

American beekeepers well know the value of basswood trees for the production of honey. It should be possible for farmers interested in bee culture to make the basswood trees serve a double purpose. Trees of this species might be utilised for windbreak purposes as well as for the production of honey.

Under good conditions the basswood sometimes attains a height of 70 to 80 feet. The crown of the tree is quite compact, and forms a very dense shade. It is best suited to deep, rich, river-bottom soil and to cool situations. Very often the basswood will be found on the cooler slopes along with a variety of other trees. It is quite hardy, and although it will survive in many instances on up-land soil, yet as a general rule it is not advisable to plant this species in dry situations.

The basswood can readily be reproduced by seed and by sprouts. The seeds ripen in September or early October. As soon as the seeds are collected they should be freed of the wings and planted at once. The freezing and thawing during the winter aids in rotting and loosening the seed coat, and thereby making possible an early germination. Although fall planting is generally recommended, it is possible to keep the seed over winter in a cool, dry place by storing in sand.

The young basswood trees should be grown in nursery rows and transplanted to their permanent location at the age of one year. The trees should be set out as soon as the frost is out of the ground in the spring, and should be given protection from cattle and fire. Cattle especially do considerable damage to young trees by eating the small branches and foliage.

HOW CAN WE EDUCATE PEOPLE TO EAT MORE HONEY?

If every local newspaper in the country would carry a standing advertisement somewhat like this:—

"HONEY."

"Eat thou Honey, because it is good" (Prov. 24: 13), the people as a whole would eat more honey.

Let local bee-men have articles like the following in the local papers from time to time:—

"Honey is not only a medicine, but a food; direct from Nature, the nectar of flowers, gathered, modified, and evaporated by the bees. No purer or better food has been given to man by his Creator. Every flower produces a different flavour; if you do not like one kind of honey, try another.

"There is more nourishment in a pound of honey than there is in a pound of beefsteak. Meat contains 65 per cent. water, besides the fibre, which is indigestible. Honey is 20 per cent. water, and is almost all digested, leaving nothing to burden the system. It is all used in producing heat or energy. One can eat 2½ lbs. of honey at the price of one pound of butter."

Then below that I would give the prices of honey, different sizes of packages, and time of delivery of orders, &c. If every apiarist would thus keep the idea of "Eat more Honey" before his community, the great central markets would not be overstocked, and as a result prices would stiffen generally.

—Edward Hassinger, Jun., in *Beekeepers' Review*.

Good Things from Everywhere.

"In the Multitude of Councillors there is Wisdom."

What Constitutes Success?—He has achieved success who has lived well, laughed often, and loved much; who has gained the respect of intelligent men and the love of little children; who has filled his niche and accomplished his task; who has left the world better than he found it, whether by an improved poppy, a perfect poem or a rescued soul; who has never lacked appreciation of earth's beauty or failed to express it; who has looked for the best in others and given the best he had; whose life was an inspiration; whose memory is a benediction.—Mrs. A. J. Stanley.

Anybody can cut prices, but it takes brains to make a better article.—Alice Hubbard.

Co-operation, not competition, is the life of business.

Co-operate and assist—not criticise and find fault.—Fra Elbertus.

WHITE PINE BORER.

Readers will be pleased to hear that at last a remedy which will prevent the ravages of the white pine borer has been discovered. Should you have a piece of shelving, an article of furniture, or even a hive which has been attacked by this destructive little insect, all that is necessary is that you give it a coat of Lignolite. Repeat the operation in three months' time.

Few people know that the borer is really a fly, and that the holes we see are left by the grub as it emerges for its first flight. The fly has a sharp hollow projection, very like the sting of a bee. When it finds a suitable piece of timber, it bores a tiny hole, so small that the eye cannot see it, and in this safe retreat deposits an egg. The egg in time hatches into a borer, which continues its way through the timber, emerging through the holes we see as a fly in about six months' time, and then repeats the original process. It is estimated that each fly deposits about 100 eggs. The chemical referred to soaks into the wood, and absolutely prevents further ravages by the insect.

A striking commentary on the value of Beekeepers' Conventions is the fact that at the first meeting of the Montana beekeepers, held in January, instructions were given by the secretary to arrange for the co-operative purchase of supplies in car-load lots, thereby saving a considerable amount of freight, and also obtaining all the discounts which are available. It was interesting to note that the majority of those present were using 5 x 4 sections, but they recognised that uniformity was necessary in shipping their produce to the market, and they have all agreed to change their equipments and adopt the standard 4¼ x 4¼. Evidently our friends specialise on comb honey.

It is hoped that the Government analytical chemist will give a lecture on "Composition and Food Value of Honey," and that the State entomologist will also deliver a lecture on "The Honey Bee" at the June Conference. Both these subjects can be made particularly interesting from a beekeeper's point of view.

Copy of letter sent by one of the firms who are handling honey packed by our Co-operative Company:—

"Messrs. ———.

"Dear Sirs,—We cannot accept your offer of honey, as we confine our trade to the New Zealand Co-operative Honey Producers' Association, Ltd., Normanby. This is an Association of all the leading apiarists in New Zealand. The honey is all sent to a central depot, and there treated and packed. We find we can obtain an increased price on account of the excellent and uniform quality and packing.

"Yours truly,

"—— & Co., Ltd."

This shows how the merchants are already viewing the operations of the Company. In 1910 this firm offered 9/- per dozen for 2-lb. tins, and in 1914 willingly paid 10/9 for the same sized package. If any further arguments were needed in favour of the Co-operative principle, the above correspondence supplies one of them.

HONEY FOR THE DISTRESSED POOR OF GREAT BRITAIN.

Now that the extracting season is in full swing and we have honey available, it is opportune that an effort be made to collect and ship the first contribution of honey for this very laudable object. If you are prepared to contribute even a very small quantity, will you please send a note to one of the Secretaries of the Branches of the National Beekeepers' Association stating how much you can spare, the class of package, and when it will be available. Arrangements for shipment can then be made, and instructions will be sent you when and where to forward it.

It would be a good plan if some enthusiast were to canvass each district. We might even have district contributions. In order to save expense in the Home Land, and to ensure a wide distribution, the most suitable packages would be 1, 2, and 5lb. pots, tins, or packets. We shall be glad also of contributions of cash to pay the cost of shipment.

R. W. BRICKELL,

Secretary National Beekeepers' Association.

The Editor will be pleased to receive contributions and articles from beekeepers and others on any matters of general interest to the honey industry—articles on technical questions, suggestions for improving the flora of districts to fill the gap between early spring and the clover flow, the advantages of a 12-frame over the 8 and 10-frame hive, the uses of excluders, &c.

Correspondence.

THE BULLETIN BOARD.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—To make the "Bulletin Board" really useful to the readers of the Journal, I think that full details of prices should be given every month. The information supplied so far is meagre, and sometimes misleading. In Christchurch there are no commission agents handling honey, all sales being made direct to the retailers and wholesalers. Such prices should be quoted as nett sales, and others as commission sales. In the other centres most of the honey goes through the commission agents' hands, and no doubt these people would willingly supply a report, say, for the 15th of each month, of the supply and the sales effected, whether in bulk or in retail packages. Perhaps by next year the Honey Producers' Association will be able to draw up a scale of prices.

The true market value of beeswax is especially hard to get at, and having had some experience in buying wax, I could bring forward facts which show that the prices quoted in the Journal are not general. A large manufacturing firm in Dunedin has a standing offer with the wholesale trade to take wax at 1/4, delivered in Dunedin, yet the best offer I could get from them last spring was 1/3. I know that sales have taken place recently at prices up to 1/6, but the explanation is that certain manufacturers and contractors for Government supplies run short occasionally, and they must have some to go on with at any price. If the wholesale trade are short of supplies they go to the commission agents, who at once report a good demand. Once their immediate need is satisfied back drops the price to the usual. There are many others besides myself who would like to know from Mr. Teed where they can get 1/7 for wax, and whether it is a nett price.—I am, etc.,

Wainui.

W. BRAY.

[Mr. Bray's suggestion that the "Bulletin Board" give full details of market conditions in the various centres is one which we should like to adopt. The difficulty is to obtain regular and reliable information, or, in fact, any information at all. If readers will report the condition of the trade in their own locality, we shall be pleased to publish the same.—Ed.]

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—Some little time ago Dr. Levinge, who, by the way, is an old army surgeon, told me that the British War Office were advertising for honey. Of course, I thanked him, but, knowing that under our contract with the Bristol and Dominions' Association it was no good to us, I thought it was well worth mentioning, as the War Office and its doings are so well to the fore just now. The doctor went on talking about honeys and sugars and their merits, and so on, so I got him to make a statement, which is this:—Sugar being the great source of

muscular energy, the military authorities have found that troops can endure greater hardships by being fed on rations composed largely of sugars and honey, whereas at one time they used alcohol. I am just dropping you this in case it has not come under your notice; it might come in handy for advertising schemes.—I am, etc.,

S. HERBERT.

Ruawai, 12th April, 1915.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—Although I think Mr. Baines' proposal on page 164 of the Journal a good one, yet I am of opinion that the Department of Agriculture should be given credit for what they have already done. Several years ago (about February, 1907) the Department collected samples of honey throughout the Dominion, and if the exhibit was not a large one it was the fault of the beekeepers.

Last February I received a note from Mr. Jacobsen asking for some samples to replace the old ones, and I have no doubt all beekeepers received the same.

On page 161 of the Journal you ask for suggestions for the coming Conference. I would like to suggest that the Government graders give a demonstration on the first or second day, and grade, say, three or four samples of honey. Last year many had to leave before the demonstration. I should also like to suggest that probably more honey would be sent forward for export if the Association were to state that as the contract is for three years, an average return will be paid for that period, as no doubt the nett return will be less for this season owing to the high freights, &c.—I am, etc.,

E. J. PINK.

In reply to an enquiry, we publish the experiences of Miss Fenwick, of Maraeweka, Maheno:—

Miss Fenwick spends most of her time in London, and has great difficulty in obtaining New Zealand honey there. When asking for it in shops where she deals, she is told the supply is very small, and is bespoken beforehand. No doubt places like Harrod's Stores would readily take up and sell New Zealand honey if got up in some distinctive way to prevent its being confused with other brands, particularly Continental, which are frequently artificial or manufactured honey. Miss Fenwick regrets being unable to supply a definite quantity of honey each year, and believes there should be a great future for the honey export trade.

[In view of the fact that large quantities of our honey have been lying in London awaiting sales, it certainly looks as though the firms handling honey are not taking much trouble with it, and we can congratulate ourselves on the excellent arrangements inaugurated this season.—Ed.]

HONEY COMPETITIONS AT SHOWS.

The Honey Competitions promoted by the various Agricultural Societies deserve the very hearty support of the beekeepers. Exhibits such as these are seen by thousands of people, and are one of the best advertising mediums we have. If honey is worth producing and selling, it is certainly worth while making some effort to help the distributor sell what he buys from us. We trust, therefore, that the Societies will receive a large number of exhibits.

At the Waikato Show, which will be held in Hamilton commencing 1st June, the Waikato Beekeepers' Association are making a display worthy of the district. There is also to be a Demonstration Tent for the handling of bees, as well as a stall for the sale of members' honey. The ideas are excellent, and we wish the Waikato Association every success in their venture.

DUNEDIN WINTER SHOW, JUNE 1st to 4th, 1915.

Class No. 42—Honey, in two glass bottles, total not exceeding 5 lbs.:—First prize, £1; second prize, 10/-.

Class No. 43—Honey, in comb, not exceeding 4 lbs.:—First prize, £1; second prize, 10/-.

Special Prizes given by Alliance Box Co., Ltd.—For the Best Case of Honey ready for Export; to be judged on Points by the Government Grader:—First prize, £1 10/-; second prize, 10/-.

Entries to be sent to H. V. FULTON, Secretary, Dunedin, on or before May 12th.

MANAWATU WINTER SHOW, JUNE 22nd to 25th, 1915.

Best Exhibit Table Honey (Liquid), 3 jars of 2 lbs., clear glass.

Best Exhibit Table Honey (Granulated), 3 jars of 2 lbs., clear glass.

Best Exhibit Comb Honey, 6 sections.

Best Export Case Granulated Honey (Dark).

Best Export Case Granulated Honey (Medium Amber).

Best Export Case Granulated Honey (Light Amber).

Best Exhibit Bleached Wax, 3 lbs.

Best Exhibit Unbleached Wax, 3 lbs.

Best Exhibit 2 "Hoffman" Frames Comb Honey.

Best Exhibit 2 "Broad" Frames Comb Honey.

Prize money is £2 and £1 for Case Honey, and £1 and 10/- for Jar and Comb Honey and Wax. The Association's Medal will be awarded for Champion Export Case, and the judging will be done by the Staff of the Department of Agriculture. Certificates also will be given.

Entries to be sent to W. T. PENNY, Secretary, Palmerston North, on or before May 31st.

The Beekeepers' Exchange.

FOR SALE. | WANTED. | TO EXCHANGE.

ADVERTISEMENTS on this Page will be inserted at the rate of 2/- per 36 words per insertion.

ONE TON OF BEESWAX REQUIRED

for the Manufacture of "ACORN" COMB FOUNDATION.

Clean Wax, 1/3 per lb., cash at Christchurch Station.

Beekeepers having Wax for disposal should communicate with

A. ECROYD, 177 Shirley Road, Christchurch.

TO BEEKEEPERS!

We are the Largest Manufacturers in New Zealand of HONEY TINS of all sizes for Local and Export Trade. We supply Tins plain or decorated.

Send us particulars of your requirements, when we will be pleased to quote you prices that we know will be favourable.

We have no agents, and all enquiries must be made direct to us.

ALEXANDER HARVEY & SONS, Ltd.
ALBERT STREET, AUCKLAND.

The W.F.C.A., Ltd.,
LAMBTON QUAY,
WELLINGTON.

(By appointment Suppliers to His Excellency the Governor.)

We are Agents for this District for The ALLIANCE BOX CO., and carry Large Stocks of all BEE REQUISITES.

All orders receive prompt attention.

Do you know that our name is synonymous with the best of everything as suppliers of Food Stuffs.

DEPARTMENTS:

Grocery, Wines and Spirits, Crockery and Hardware.

THE WAIRARAPA FARMERS' ASSOCIATION, LTD.,
Lambton Quay, Wellington.

PAPER HONEY POTS.

We have just landed a Large Quantity of these Popular HONEY PACKAGES, and shall be pleased to send samples and quotations on request.

Honey packed in 1913 in these Pots is still in good condition.

The "DANDY" HONEY SPOON.

PRICE--

Nickel-plated	...	1/-	Electro-plated	...	2/-
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Post free to any address

DISTRIBUTING AGENTS:

ALLIANCE BOX CO., LTD., DUNEDIN.



ITALIAN QUEENS

From Root's Famous Long Tongued
Red Clover Strain.

THESE ARE THE BEES THAT FILL
THE SUPERS AND THE POCKETS.

SAFE ARRIVAL GUARANTEED.



PRICES.
Cash
with order.

Untested	-	10/-	15/-
Tested	-	20/-	35/-

M. SHEPHERD,

10 WILMER STREET

CHRISTCHURCH.

W. A. DAWSON, FORTROSE.

PRICE LIST OF QUEENS.

Untested	1	2	3	5
Tested	5s.	9s.	13s.	20s.
Select Tested	10s.	18s.	25s.	42s.
	14s.	26s.		

COLONIES OF BEES (without Queens).

2 Frame (Nucleus Colony)	...	...	Each—10s.
3 " " "	...	...	" 12/6.
4 " " "	...	...	" 15s.
Full Colony on 10 Frames	...	...	£1 12s.

To the above prices must be added the price of the Queen required.

BEES Free from Disease, and bred from good stock. All care taken to ensure safe transit, but no responsibility taken with the colonies. I will, however replace a dead queen, from the mail, if the box is returned intact.

TERMS—CASH WITH ORDER.

W. A. DAWSON, FORTROSE, SOUTHLAND.

THE "DAWSON ENTRANCE FEEDER."

The most Economical Feeder to use.

Saves TIME, LABOUR, & EXPENSE. Three great factors of importance to the Bee-keeper.

Some Facts about this Feeder.

It can be adjusted for use in one minute.
Is perfect working when in use, and costs little.
Does not admit robber bees easily.
Is not a hindrance to the honey-gatherers, and makes a little sugar go a long way.
One hundred Colonies can be fed in as many minutes.

Try one on each hive. Feed a little each morning early with a syrup of "two of water to one of sugar," and see how the bees will forge ahead to the point of storing a surplus in most cases.

PRICE - 1/8 Each.

Per Doz. - 18/-.

Mfctd. by Wm. A. Dawson, Fortrose.

Selling Agents, Alliance Box Co., Ltd., Dunedin.

N.B.—Fill twice a week and keep your Colonies in good order.

The Feeder can be attached to any hive.

ROBERT STEWART'S PRICE LIST.

PURE ITALIAN QUEENS, GOLDEN & THREE-BANDED.

	1	2	3	4	5
Untested	5/-	9/6	14/-	18/-	22/-
Select Untested—1/- extra per Queen.					
Tested	10/-	18/-	25/-	33/-	40/-
Select Tested	12/6	22/6			
Breeders	20/-				

Queens supplied at above prices from a new strain procured from the A. I. Root Company, and tested during last season, at customer's option.

TERMS: Nett cash with order. Cheques to have exchange added.

All Queens guaranteed free from Foul Brood, Bee Paralysis, and all other diseases. Bred from pure stock, which have been selected for hardiness, disease resisting, good working, and non-swarming qualities.

P.O. Order Office, Tapanui.

Address: R. STEWART, Crookston, Otago.

To get the Best returns from your Honey you must use Up-to-date Equipment!

IN BEE-KEEPING, as in everything else, the man who utilises labour-saving appliances is the man who makes most money. Pottering away with old-fashioned plant is the most extravagant practice of which any Apiarist can be guilty. Let us equip you with the modern type of plant, and you will find that results will more than justify the expenditure.

Automatic Extractors Worked by Motors.

We would like to send you a FREE Pamphlet on Power Honey Extractors !!

It tells you about the wonderful machines which the large Apiarists are now using. The plant consists of a 4, 6, or 8 Comb Extractor with a Honey Pump geared to the side, and the whole outfit driven by a 1 or 1½ Horse Power Motor. It saves—Time, Labour and Wages, and gives an increase in the amount of Honey extracted.

We also stock the Latest Extractors for working by hand.

The "Baines" Capping Melter.

This ingenious appliance removes all difficulties in dealing with Un-cappings.

It is Automatic in action and produces a High-grade Wax immediately the extracting is finished. Will deal with combs in any condition while the Honey is not injuriously affected in the slightest degree.

Price Complete—50/-

Steam-Heated Uncapping Knife.

LEA'S New Patent Steam-Heated Knife is a tremendous boon to Bee-keepers.

The Knife has a hollow blade through which the steam passes all the time, keeping it always piping hot and ready for use.

A PRACTICAL DEVICE, INVENTED BY A PRACTICAL MAN FOR PRACTICAL BEE-KEEPERS.

Price—42/-

Alliance Box Co., Ltd.,
Headquarters for Apiarists' Supplies,
CASTLE STREET - - DUNEDIN.